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# PLAIN FACTS

## **How Liberals Made Good**

**EVERY PROMISE MADE TO THE PEOPLE FAITHFULLY  
KEPT—A BRILLIANT RECORD OF TWELVE YEARS'  
STEWARDSHIP.**

### **Enormous Trade Expansion**

**LOWER TAXATION AND HIGHEST REVENUE IN THE HIS-  
TORY OF THE COUNTRY—PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
ADMINISTERED WITH WISDOM**

The Liberal party came into power in 1896, on the distinct pledge to design a policy that would produce a revenue, give an impetus to commerce, and preserve the public domain from the greed of railway corporations.

In 1900 and 1904 they rendered an account of their stewardship and the people signified that confidence in the government was unimpaired. The following pages show how well the pledges made to the people were redeemed, and upon the results secured, the administration can confidently leave the verdict with the electorate.

#### **Trade Under Conservatives.**

Year ended	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
June 30, 1878 .....	\$93,081,787	\$79,323,667	\$172,405,454

After 18 years of Conservative rule the following shows increase in trade:—

Year ended	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
June 30, 1895	\$118,011,508	\$121,013,852	\$239,025,360

Total increase in trade after 18 years of Conservative rule:—

Imports.	Exports.	Total.
\$24,929,731	\$41,690,185	\$66,619,906

**TOTAL INCREASE IN 18 YEARS, ENDING 1896,**

**\$66,619,906**

After being in power for eighteen years, the Conservatives could only point to a total increase of trade amounting to \$66,619,906.

### Trade Under Liberals.

The very year the Liberals assumed office there was a revival of confidence in business circles, and a consequent increase in trade. The following table shows the steady growth each year, to the banner year ending 31st March, 1908, **WHEN THE GRAND TOTAL AND RECORD-BREAKER OF \$650,793,131 WAS REACHED, AN INCREASE OF \$411,768,000 OVER THE LAST YEAR OF CONSERVATIVE RULE**

### Canada's Trade Expansion.

Year ended June 30,	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
1897.....	\$119,218,609	\$137,950,253	\$257,168,863
1898 .....	140,323,053	164,152,683	304,475,736
1899 .....	162,764,308	158,896,905	321,661,213
1900 .....	189,622,513	191,894,723	381,517,236
1901 .....	190,415,525	196,487,632	386,903,157
1902 .....	212,270,158	211,640,286	423,910,444
1903 .....	241,214,961	233,790,516	475,005,477
1904 .....	259,211,803	213,521,235	472,733,038
1905 .....	266,834,417	203,316,872	470,151,289
1906 .....	294,286,015	256,586,630	550,872,645
1907 (9 mos.).....	259,786,007	205,277,197	465,063,204
1908 .....	370,786,525	280,006,606	650,793,131
<b>Grand Total .....</b>	<b>\$2,706,733,894</b>	<b>\$2,453,521,538</b>	<b>\$5,160,255,432</b>

**TOTAL TRADE UNDER LIBERALS IN TWELVE YEARS,**

**\$5,160,255,432**

**TOTAL TRADE UNDER CONSERVATIVES LAST TWELVE  
YEARS OF THEIR RULE.**

**\$2,537,470,972**

EXCESS IN TRADE DURING TWELVE YEARS OF LIBERAL  
RULE OVER THE LAST TWELVE YEARS OF CONSERVA-  
TIVE RULE,

**\$2,622,784,460**

THE LIBERALS GAINED MORE IN TOTAL TRADE AFTER  
BEING IN OFFICE TWO YEARS THAN THE CONSERVATIVES  
GAINED IN EIGHTEEN YEARS.

DURING THE YEAR 1908 THE LIBERALS GAINED SIX  
AND A HALF TIMES MORE TRADE THAN THE CONSERVATIVES  
GAINED AFTER BEING IN OFFICE FOR EIGHTEEN  
YEARS.

The following table shows how the total trade of the country grew  
after the Liberals assumed office:—

**Results of Wise Policy.**

In 1896 total trade under Conservatives was ..... \$239,025,000

**LIBERAL RULE.**

In 1897	this was exceeded by	.....	\$18,143,000
In 1898	do	.....	65,450,000
In 1899	do	.....	82,636,000
In 1900	do	.....	142,492,000
In 1901	do	.....	147,878,000
In 1902	do	.....	184,885,000
In 1903	do	.....	235,980,000
In 1904	do	.....	233,708,000
In 1905	do	.....	231,126,000
In 1906	do	.....	311,847,000
In 1907 (9 mos.)	do	.....	226,038,000
In 1908	do	.....	411,768,000

TOTAL INCREASE 1908, OVER LAST YEAR OF CONSERVATIVE  
RULE,

**\$411,768,000**

TOTAL INCREASE 1896, AFTER 18 YEARS OF CONSERVATIVE  
RULE,

**\$66,619,000**

The growth of trade is convincing evidence of the country's prosperity. In this regard the Liberal administration can point with pride to the results of a wise policy honestly applied. After being in power for eighteen years the Conservatives did not succeed in developing the trade of Canada to any appreciable extent. **ON THE OTHER HAND TRADE RESPONDED TO THE FISCAL POLICY OF THE LIBERAL GOVERNMENT BY LEAPS AND BOUNDS.**

**TOTAL TRADE IN 1896, AFTER CONSERVATIVES HAD BEEN IN POWER EIGHTEEN YEARS,**

**\$239,025,360**

**TOTAL TRADE IN 1908, AFTER LIBERALS HAD BEEN IN POWER TWELVE YEARS,**

**\$650,793,131**

**EXCESS OF TRADE 1908 OVER 1896,**

**\$411,768,000**

### **Liberals Produced a Revenue.**

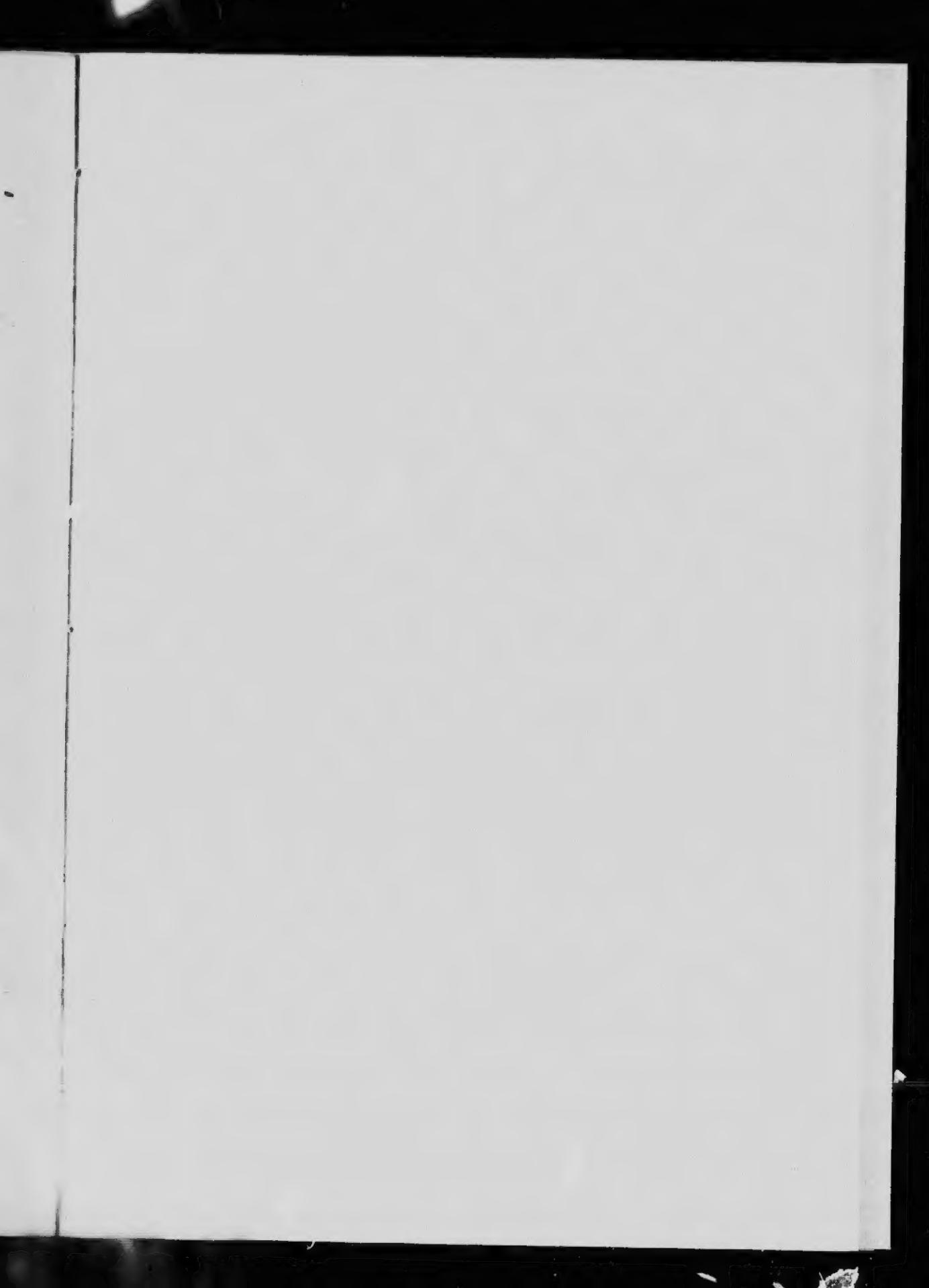
The Liberals promised, if returned to power that they would design a tariff that would produce a revenue. In 1896 the total revenue of Canada was \$2,164,280 less than it was in 1888, and the public debt was over \$40,000,000 greater. It had been found necessary by the Conservatives to borrow money **TO PAY THE ORDINARY EXPENSES OF THE COUNTRY.** The public debt had been going up year by year, and the time had arrived to change the government. The people were promised an increase in revenue, and this is how the Liberals kept their promise:—

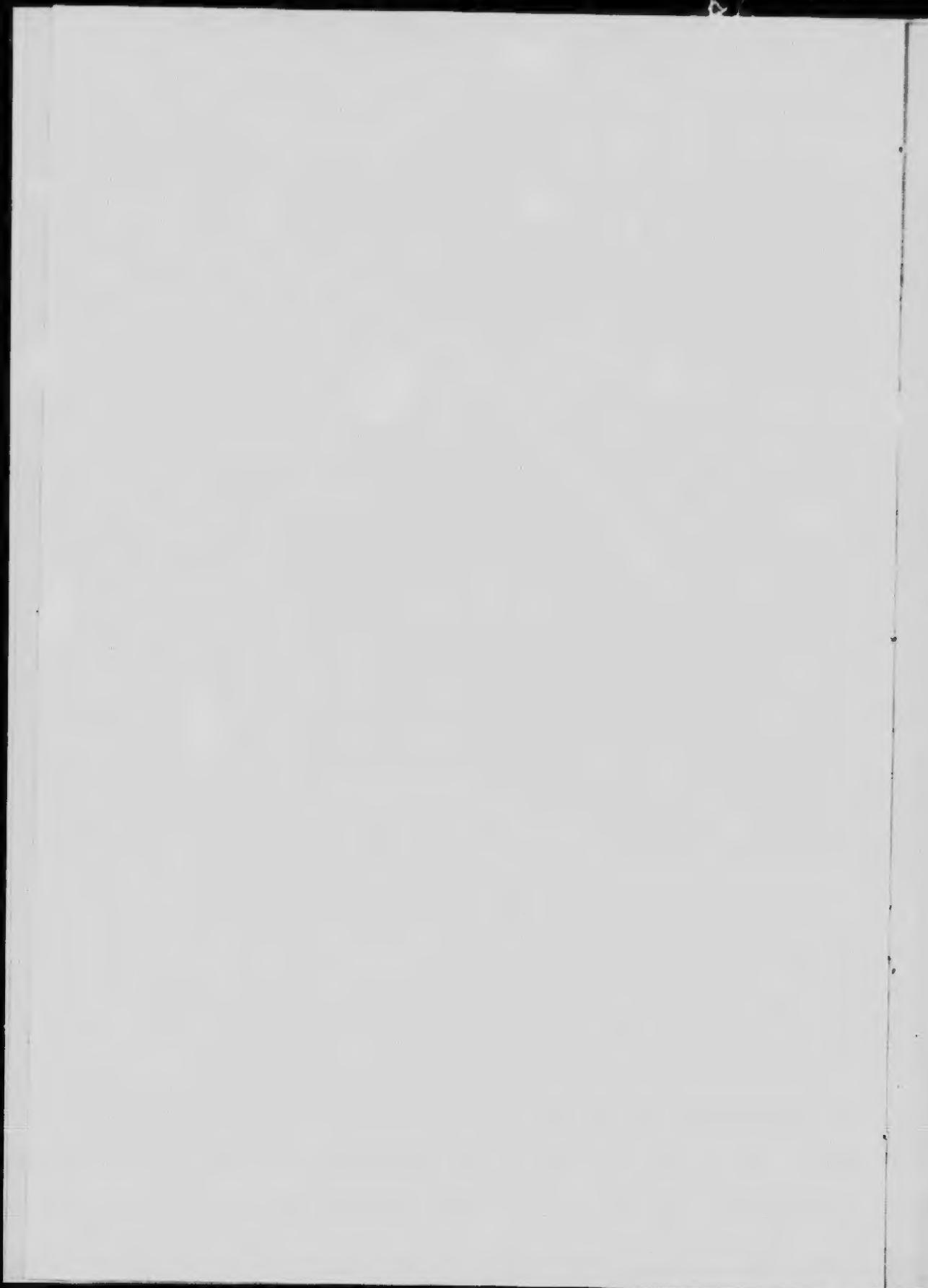
**IN 1896 THE TOTAL REVENUE OF THE COUNTRY  
CONSERVATIVES, WAS**

**\$36,618,690**

**UNDER LIBERAL RULE.**

In 1897 this was exceeded by.....	.....	\$1,211,
In 1898 do	.....	3,936,61
In 1899 do	.....	10,122,65
In 1900 do	.....	14,411,404
In 1901 do	.....	15,896,111
In 1902 do	.....	27,432,206
In 1903 do	.....	29,418,473





In 1894 this was exceeded by .....	34,051,326
In 1895 do .....	34,564,182
In 1896 do .....	43,520,770
In 1897 (9 mos.) do .....	31,350,738
In 1898 do .....	59,881,410

**TOTAL REVENUE IN 1896, AFTER CONSERVATIVES HAD  
BEEN IN POWER EIGHTEEN YEARS..... \$36,618,590**

**TOTAL REVENUE IN 1908, AFTER LIBERALS HAD BEEN IN  
POWER TWELVE YEARS,**

**\$96,500,000**

**EXCESS OF REVENUE 1908 OVER 1896,**

**\$59,881,410**

#### **Revenue from Excise.**

In 1896, the total revenue from excise was \$500,000 less than it was in 1893. It amounted to

**\$8,034,077**

#### **LIBERAL RULE.**

In 1897 this was exceeded by .....	\$1,254,603
In 1898 do (no excess) .....	.....
In 1899 do .....	1,768,193
In 1900 do .....	2,019,090
In 1901 do .....	2,577,300
In 1902 do .....	3,432,813
In 1903 do .....	4,368,089
In 1904 do .....	5,300,501
In 1905 do .....	11,902,252
In 1906 do .....	6,402,480
In 1907 (9 mos.) do .....	4,063,569
In 1908 do .....	8,219,563

**TOTAL REVENUE FROM EXCISE IN 1896, AFTER EIGHTEEN  
YEARS OF CONSERVATIVE RULE,**

**\$8,034,077**

**TOTAL REVENUE FROM EXCISE IN 1908, AFTER TWELVE  
YEARS OF LIBERAL RULE,**

**\$16,253,640**

**EXCESS OF REVENUE FROM EXCISE IN 1908 OVER 1896,**

**\$8,219,563**

**IN TWELVE YEARS THE REVENUE FROM EXCISE MORE THAN DOUBLED. IT WAS TWICE AS GREAT IN 1903 AS IT WAS IN 1896.**

**Post Office Produces Surplus.**

Never in the history of Conservative government did the Post Office show a surplus. In 1896 there was a deficit of \$700,997.

**SINCE 1903, UNDER LIBERAL ADMINISTRATION THE POST OFFICE HAS PRODUCED A SURPLUS EVERY YEAR. LAST YEAR'S SURPLUS AMOUNTED TO**

**\$1,100,000**

**SURPLUS BY YEARS.**

1903.....	\$292,654
1904.....	304,784
1905.....	490,845
1906.....	1,011,765
1907.....	1,082,171
1908.....	1,100,000
<b>Grand Total .....</b>	<b>\$4,282,219</b>

This surplus has been created notwithstanding a reduction in the postal rates, and the establishment of the drop letter rate in cities.

In addition to this, the increase to postmasters' salaries granted last year, amounted to over \$400,000, and \$750,000 was expended in extending the service.

**EXPENSES REDUCED.**

In 1896 it cost the Conservatives 04.43 per cent. to collect the Customs revenue amounting to \$20,219,037.

In 1907 (nine months only), it cost the Liberals 03.04 per cent. to collect the Customs revenue, amounting to \$40,290,171.

**Liberals Reduced Taxation.**

The Liberal Government has affected a reduction in the rate of duty and taxation. On all goods entering Canada for home consumption, the average rate of duty in 1896 was 18.28 per cent., and in 1907 it was 15.73 per cent., a reduction of 2.55 per cent. **IN OTHER WORDS, THE LIBERALS REDUCED TAXATION \$2.55 UPON EVERY \$100 OF GOODS ENTERED FOR HOME CONSUMPTION.**

On dutiable imports, the average rate in 1896 was 29.97 per cent. and in 1907 it was 26.33 per cent., a reduction of 3.64 per cent. **IN OTHER WORDS, THE LIBERALS REDUCED TAXATION \$3.64 UPON EVERY \$100 OF GOODS IMPORTED.**

On the total imports in 1896 the average rate was 19.12 per cent., and in 1907 it was 16.03 per cent., a reduction of 3.09 per cent. **IN OTHER WORDS, THE LIBERALS REDUCED TAXATION \$3.09 UPON EVERY \$100 OF GOODS ENTERING CANADA.**

The above figures prove that although taxation was reduced, the revenue increased. This was an exact fulfillment of the pledge made to the people in 1896, **TO INCREASE THE REVENUE WITHOUT ADDING TO THE BURDEN OF TAXATION.**

### **Liberals Record Surpluses.**

The Conservative Government was a government of deficits. The policy followed was so little adapted to the needs of the country, that it failed to produce a revenue sufficient to pay the ordinary expenses of the country. **IN OTHER WORDS, THE CONSERVATIVES WERE COMPELLED TO BORROW MONEY TO PAY LIVING EXPENSES.**

The last three years of Conservative rule resulted in a deficit of \$6,000,000.

In sharp contrast to this is the record of the Liberal Government. With the exception of the first year, when the government had to carry the Conservative burden, **THERE HAS BEEN A LARGE SURPLUS EACH YEAR.**

### **Growth of Surplus.**

1897-8 .....	\$1,722,712
1898-9 .....	4,837,749
1899-00 .....	8,054,714
1900-01 .....	5,648,333
1901-02 .....	7,291,398
1902-03 .....	14,345,166
1903-04 .....	15,056,984
1904-05 .....	7,863,089
1905-06 .....	12,898,719
1906-07 (9 mos.) .....	16,427,167
1907-08 .....	19,000,000
<b>Grand Total .....</b>	<b>\$113,146,031</b>

### **Analysis of Public Debt.**

**DURING EIGHTEEN YEARS OF POWER, BETWEEN THE YEARS 1878 AND 1896, THE CONSERVATIVES ADDED TO THE PUBLIC DEBT THE SUM OF**

**\$118,000,000**

DURING TWELVE YEARS OF POWER, BETWEEN 1896 AND 1908, THE LIBERALS ADDED TO THE PUBLIC DEBT THE SUM OF

**\$5,000,000**

DURING THE LAST ELEVEN YEARS OF CONSERVATIVE RULE, THEY SPENT \$80,000,000 ON PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS. TO DO THIS THEY BORROWED

**\$62,000,000**

DURING ELEVEN YEARS OF LIBERAL RULE THEY SPENT \$127,000,000 ON PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS. TO DO THIS THEY ONLY BORROWED \$5,000,000.

#### **Foster the Borrower.**

HON. GEO. E. FOSTER WAS THE MAN WHO INCURRED THE HEAVY DEBTS WHICH THE PRESENT FINANCE MINISTER HAS TO MEET. Mr. Foster is constantly asking questions in the House on this subject. He is worrying about maturing loans and anxious as to their payment. **HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN MORE CAREFUL OF THE INTERESTS OF CANADA WHEN HE WAS FINANCE MINISTER**, and not have incurred the debts, then he would have had no cause for anxiety now.

If Canada has heavy debts to pay, **MR. FOSTER WAS THE MAN WHO BORROWED THE MONEY AND SPENT IT**, and this is the man who expects the people of Canada to make him Finance Minister. It is to be hoped the people of Canada will remember **THE MAN WHO INCURRED THE DEBTS**.

There has been an obligation of \$12,000,000 entered into on account of the National Transcontinental Railway, **BUT WITH RESPECT TO THIS THE COUNTRY POSSESSES A VALUABLE ASSET**, and the mandate of the people in 1904 was, **BUILD THE RAILWAY**.

